

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-39 are presently pending before amendments herein. Claims 7-31, 35-37, and 39 are cancelled. No new claims are added. Claims 1-6, 32-34, and 38 remain pending after amendments herein.

**Election/Restriction**

The claims are subjected to a restriction/election requirement under 35 U.S.C. §121 as containing two patentably distinct groups of the claimed invention:

- I. Claims 1-6, 32-34, and 38, are drawn to a method facilitating similarity recognition of a digital signal that results in a recognition value that indicates the perceptual aspects of the signal, classified in class 382, subclass 181; and
- II. Claims 7-31, 35-37, and 39, are drawn to methods for hashing a digital signal, classified in class 382, subclass 232.

Applicant hereby elects to prosecute Group I in the event that the restriction/election requirement as set forth above is maintained. **Claims 1-6, 32-34, and 38 read on Group I.**

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1 **Conclusion**

2 All pending claims are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully  
3 requests reconsideration and prompt issuance of the application. If any issues  
4 remain that prevent issuance of this application, the Office is urged to contact the  
5 undersigned attorney before issuing a subsequent Action.

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7 Respectfully Submitted,  
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